

Poor start cost us - Harry

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Harry Redknapp couldn't look beyond our poor start as he reflected on Wednesday night's Europa League loss against PAOK.



The manager described the first 20 minutes as 'sloppy' and PAOK took full advantage to lead 2-0 inside 15 minutes with goals from Dimitris Salpingidis and Stefanos Athanasiadis.

We were handed a lifeline when Kostas Stafylidis was sent off for handling Harry Kane's goalbound effort and Luka Modric made it 2-1 from the penalty spot in the 37th minute.

But try as we might, we couldn't find the equaliser in the second half that would have kept our destiny in our hands going into the final round of matches later this month.

Instead, even victory at Shamrock Rovers might not be enough as a draw between PAOK and Rubin Kazan in Salonika will see both of those teams through to the knockout stage.

"We have no-one to blame," said Harry. "We gave two terrible goals away early on, look at the defending for the two goals and it was poor.

"We started sloppy, gave the ball away, turned the ball over and at 2-0 down, it's uphill from there, it's difficult.



"Once we scored the penalty I thought we would get at them and we did, we battered away, but they got lots of bodies in the way and we just couldn't break them down.

"It was like a training drill. Put eight players in there and you can attack, attack and attack and it's very difficult. I do it some mornings and we'll play for 50 minutes and won't get a goal.

"We just lacked someone to do something out the blue to nick a goal. We couldn't quite do it.

"It's disappointing because we want to win every game and we had our chances. Full credit to the opposition though, they played very well."

